

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A system for identification of animals, the system including an animal identification device adapted for application to an animal and a device for secure storage of organic material taken from the animal to be identified by the identification device, the secure storage device removably secured to the identification device, the storage device and identification device each being marked with a common identifier, and a storage holder adapted to receive the identification device and the storage device prior to use in such a way that the organic material taken from the animal to be identified can be stored in the storage device while mounted on the storage holder in which the identification device and the storage device are mounted prior to use.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the storage holder is in the form of a moulded tray.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the identification device is an animal eartag or a bolus.
5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4 wherein the eartag, is a two-component eartag.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the storage device is removably secured to the or one component of the eartag.
7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6 wherein the identification device can also include an electronic identification device.
8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the common identifier is an alpha, numeric or alphanumeric marking.
9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the common identifier is an on-farm management identifier used for visual identification of the animal.
10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7 wherein the common identifier can be part of the unique number of an electronic identification device.
11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the storage holder includes a recess configured to removably retain a head of a male part of an eartag identification device.
12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11 wherein the storage holder includes a retention device with which a female part of the eartag is removably retained.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11 wherein the storage holder includes a recess in which a part of the female part of the eartag can reside, and a stud onto which the female part can be installed.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11 further including a second recess for the head of a male part of a second identification device and a second recess with stud for a female part of a second identification device.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the second identification device is an electronic identification device.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the tray is formed as one of a plurality of conjoined trays.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7 wherein the common identifier is an on-farm management identifier used for visual identification purposes.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the common identifier forms part of a unique number of an electronic identification device.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of identification of an animal including providing a storage holder which has an animal identification device marked with an identifier marking and a secure storage device, the secure storage device removably secured to the identification device, the secure storage device also being marked with the same identifier marking, the method including the steps of taking a sample of organic material from the animal and placing the sample in the secure storage device, removing the identification device and storage device from the storage holder, applying the identification device to the animal and placing the storage device in a secure storage facility, wherein the storage holder is adapted to receive the identification device and the storage device prior to use in such a way that the organic material taken from the animal to be identified can be stored in the storage device while mounted on the storage holder.

21. (Cancelled)